

Message Text

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ACTION AF-18

INFO OCT-01 EUR-25 ISO-00 OMB-01 IO-14 CIAE-00 DODE-00

PM-07 H-03 INR-10 L-03 NSAE-00 NSC-10 PA-04 RSC-01

PRS-01 SPC-03 SS-20 USIA-15 ACDA-19 EB-11 DRC-01 /167 W

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R 161335Z OCT 73

FM AMCONSUL LOURENCO MARQUES

TO SECSTATE WASHDC 2169

INFO AMEMBASSY BLANTYRE

AMEMBASSY DAR ES SALAAM

AMEMBASSY LISBON

AMCONSUL LUANDA

AMEMBASSY LUSAKA

AMEMBASSY PRETORIA

C O N F I D E N T I A L SECTION 1 OF 2 LOURENCO MARQUES 0716

E.O. 11652: GDS

TAGS: PINT, MZ

SUBJ: FURTHER INFORMATION ON AFRICAN GROUP FOR PEACEFUL
INDEPENDENCE

REF: (A) LOURENCO MARQUES A-142; (B) LISBON A-174 (NOTAL);
(C) LOURENCO MARQUES 674 (NOTAL)

1. SUMMARY: AFRICAN LAWYER MAXIMO DIAS, ELECTED PRESIDENT
OF GROUP SEEKING WORK LEGALLY FOR GRADUAL MOZAMBIQUE INDEPEN-
DENCE.; REPORTEDLY GIVEN ENCOURAGEMENT BY PRIME MINISTER CAETANO.
GROUP NOW SEEKING ESTABLISH LINKS WITH MOZAMBIQUE POLITICO/
ECONOMIC INTERESTS AND WITH MALAWI. SEEMS LIKELY PORTUGUESE
ARE COVERTLY ENCOURAGING GROUP AS ALTERNATIVE TO FRELIMO.
END SUMMARY.

2. DESPITE APPARENT DIFFERENCES IN PROGRAMS ENUNCIATED HERE
(REF A) AND IN LISBON (REF B), WHICH LED US TO SUSPECT
DIFFERENT GROUPS WERE INVOLVED (REF C), IT NOW APPEARS LAWYER
MAXIMO DIAS AND DR. JOANA SIMIAO ARE PART OF SAME ORGANIZATION
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AFTER ALL. DR. JOANA SIMIAO VISITED HOUSE OF CONSUL MACDOUGALL
OCTOBER 15 AND PROVIDED FOLLOWING INFORMATION, WHICH IS AS

YET UNCONFIRMED:

3. ACCORDING SIMIAO, GROUP HAS RECENTLY ELECTED DEFINITIVE OFFICERS AS FOLLOWS: PRESIDENT: MAXIMO DIAS; VICE PRESIDENTS: JOANA SIMIAO, WILLIAM POTT (MULATTO LAWYER FROM BEIRA), ALFERES (2ND LT.) ANIBAL OLIVEIRA (COMMANDER OF GEP UNIT); CASSAMO DAUDE (EX-PRESIDENT LOURENCO MARQUES AFRO-MOHAMADAN ASSOCIATION AND A LEADER OF LOURENCO MARQUES PORT WORKERS). SIMIAO SAID CHANGE IN LEADERSHIP WAS DUE TO FACT THAT PROVISIONAL PRESIDENT OLIVEIRA, AS MILITARY OFFICER, DID NOT HAVE TIME AND INDEPENDENT STATUS TO LEAD ORGANIZATION, WHILE LAWYER DIAS DOES.

4. ACCORDING SIMIAO, MAXIMO DIAS -- AFTER CONTACTING BRITISH, FRENCH, ITALIAN, GERMAN AND DANISH EMBASSIES IN LISBON (U.S. EMBASSY CONTACT (REF B) NOT MENTIONED) -- SUCCEEDED IN ARRANGING INTERVIEW WITH PRIME MINISTER CAETANO, THROUGH INTERVENTION BY EDITOR BALSEMAO OF EXPRESSO WEEKLY AND BY SON OF MINISTER BALTASAR DE SOUSA. CAETANO RECEIVED DIAS FOR ALMOST TWO HOURS, APPARENTLY SYMPATHETICALLY. HE SUGGESTED THAT DIAS FORM "CULTURAL ORGANIZATION" LIKE S.E.D.E.S. IN PORTUGAL; DIAS SAID THIS WOULD MAKE GROUP SEEM TO BE PORTUGUESE STOOGES. CAETANO THEN SAID GROUP SHOULD PROCEED BY APPROACHING GOVERNOR GENERAL, AS HEAD OF MOZAMBIQUE GOVERNMENT, AND PROMISED TO INSTRUCT GOVERNOR GENERAL TO GIVE DIAS SYMPATHETIC HEARING. SIMIAO SAID GROUP EXPECTS AUDIENCE WITH GOVERNOR GENERAL WILL BE FORTHCOMING, BUT IF THERE ARE PROBLEMS IT WILL SEND FOUR-MAN DELEGATION TO LISBON IN DECEMBER TO COMPLAIN TO CAETANO.

5. SIMIAO SAID SHE HAD OBTAINED MEETING (THROUGH HIS DAUGHTER) WITH PORTUGUESE INDUSTRIALIST CHAMPALIMAUD, WHO GAVE HER SYMPATHETIC HEARING AFTER SHE COMPLIMENTED HIM FOR SHOWING CONFIDENCE IN MOZAMBIQUE BY CONTINUING HEAVY INVESTMENTS HERE.

6. SIMIAO ALSO SAID SHE WILL MEET MOZAMBIKAN POLITIO/INDUSTRIALIST JORGE JARDIM ON OCTOBER 20, TO SEEK HIS SUPPORT. SHE THINKS THAT, ALTHOUGH HE WOULD PREFER RHODESIAN STYLE UDI, JARDIM IS REALISTIC

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ENOUGH TO SEE GROUPS SOLUTION AS BEST WAY OF PRESERVING HIS INTERESTS IN MOZAMBIQUE; IN ANY CASE, SHE ADDED, "HE NEEDS US MORE THAN WE NEED HIM; WE CAN ALWAYS TURN TO OTHER PEOPLE LIKE CHAMPALIMAUD OR ABECASSIS".

7. DURING SEPTEMBER SOUTHERN AFRICAN WOMENS CONGRESS, SIMIAO SENT LETTER TO MALAWI PRESIDENT BANDA VIA MALAWIAN DELEGATE MRS. KADZAMIRA. SHE HAS HEARD FROM KADZAMIRA THAT BANDA HAS RECEIVED LETTER AND PROMISES REPLY. SIMIAO SAID GROUP THOUGHT LINKS WITH MALAWI ESPECIALLY IMPORTANT, NOT JUST IN THEMSELVES,

BUT AS WAY OF REACHING AND GAINING SUPPORT FROM OTHER AFRICAN GOVERNMENTS (SIC.).

8. SIMIAO SAID GROUP'S ACTIVE SYMPATHIZERS INCLUDE NATIONAL ASSEMBLY CANDIDATES TITO JEQUE AND ALMEIDA PENICELA. COMMENTING ON OTHER LOCAL AFRICAN FIGURES, SHE SCORNFULLY REJECTED CHIEF FELISBERTO MACHATINE (CURRENTLY ADVISOR PORTUGUESE UNGA DELEGATION) AS REPRESENTING NOBODY, AND DISMISSED NATIONAL ASSEMBLY CANDIDATES ASSAHEL MAZULA AND DOMINGOS SANTOS XAVIER AS UNIMPORTANT; CANDIDATE PAULO DIMENE SHE LIKED BUT SAID (CONTRARY TO WHAT WE HAVE HEARD) THAT HE WAS MUCH LESS OUT-SPOKEN THAN JEQUE. SHE REPUDIATED FRELOMO DEFECTOR MIGUEL MURUPA AS HAVING HOPELESSLY COMPROMISED HIMSELF AS PORTUGUESE TOOL; AND COMPARED HIM UNFAVORABLY WITH LATEST DEFECTOR JOSE ALVES DIAS MUCANGA (LOURENCO MARQUES 715), WHOM SHE SAID HAD THE SENSE TO KEEP HIS RESERVE AND NOT COMPROMISE HIMSELF. SIMIAO SAID GROUP WAS HAVING NOTHING TO DO WITH DOMINGOS AROUCA (LOURENCO MARQUES 450), BECAUSE IT DID NOT WANT TO BE TAINTED BY ACCUSATIONS OF BEING ASSOCIATED WITH COMMUNISTS OR PORTUGUESE OPPOSITION PARTY.
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C O N F I D E N T I A L SECTION 2 OF 2 LOURENCO MARQUES 0716

9. AS BEFORE, SIMIAO WAS VERY VAGUE AS TO PROGRAM GROUP WOULD FOLLOW IF PERMITTED TO OPERATE. SHE SOPKE OF GETTING MORE AFRICANS IN CIVIL SERVICE, AND OF NEEDS FOR BETTER EDUCATIONAL AND HEALTH FACILITIES. SHE CONTINUED EMPHASIS GROUP'S REJECTION OF EMOTIONALISM AND ACCEPTANCE OF HARSH REALITIES -- INCLUDING LONGTERM NEED FOR PORTUGUESE AID, TECHNICIANS, AND INVESTMENT, AND FACT THAT ANY SOLUTION WOULD HAVE TO BE TOLERABLE TO SOUTH AFRICA. GROUP IS BASING ITS HOPES ON ASSUMPTION THAT PORTUGUESE ARE SEEKING HONORABLE WAY OUT OF OTHERWISE INTERMINABLE WAR, AND LOOKING FOR ALTERNATIVE TO FRELIMO TO DEAL WITH.

10. TOWARDS FRELIMO ITSELF, SIMIAO APPEARED AMBIVALENT. ONE ONE HAND, SHE DISLIKES VIOLENCE AS METHOD AND FEARS THAT FRELIMO VICTORY AND CONSEQUENT PORTUGUESE PULLOUT WOULD MEAN CHAOS AND COMMUNIST DOMINATED REGIME; ON OTHER HAND SHE SAID GROUP COULD NOT BE AGAINST FRELIMO SINCE IT WAS SEEKING WHAT MOZAMBICAN PEOPLE WANT. SHE THOUGHT FRELIMO WOULD EITHER (A) TRY TO TAKE OVER NEW GROUP AS ITS INTERNAL ARM, (B) SEEK TO ASSOCIATE ITSELF WITH GROUP AND PARTICIPATE IN ULTIMATE

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NEGOTIATIONS WITH PORTUGUESE, OR (C) REJECT IT OUT OF HAND AS PORTUGUESE STOOGE. SHE CLEARLY HOPED THAT SECOND OPTION WOULD PROVE CORRECT. SHE DESCRIBED FRELIMO VICE PRESIDENT MARCELINO DOS SANTOS AS A PERSONAL FRIEND, BUT NOTED AGAIN THAT HE HAD LEFT MOZAMBIQUE IN 1949, KNEW THE COUNTRY RELATIVELY POORLY EVEN THEN, AND WAS COMPLETELY NOW UNINFORMED OF THE CHANGES THAT HAVE TAKEN PLACE. FINALLY, SHE IS VERY AWARE THAT CONTINUED FRELIMO GUERRILLA ACTIVITY CONSTITUTES MAIN PRESSURE WHICH MIGHT INDUCE PORTUGUESE TO PLAY BALL WITH NEW GROUP.

11. SIMIAO HAS NOT YET MADE CLEAR HOW GROUP THINKS WESTERN FOREIGN GOVERNMENTS CAN HELP IT, OR WHY GROUP SEEMS SO ASSIDUOUS IN CONTACTING THEIR REPRESENTATIVES. SHE HASN'T YET ASKED FOR ANYTHING (THOUGH SHE SAID DANISH EMBASSY IN LISBON HAD INVITED DIAS TO VISIT DENMARK), AND EXPRESSED VIEW THAT MOZAMBICAN AFRICAN ELITE SHOULD WORK AT HOME RATHER THAN TRAVELLING ABROAD OR SEEKING FOREIGN SCHOLARSHIPS. SHE DID EXPRESS NEED FOR HER GROUP TO SOMEHOW GAIN AUDIENCE AT UN, IN ORDER COUNTERACT FRELIMO AND CONVINCE WORLD OF ITS AUTHENTICITY, AND IMPLIED THAT IF PORTUGAL WOULD NOT PERMIT THIS MAYBE SYMPATHETIC WESTERN COUNTRY COULD ASSIST.

12. COMMENT: DESPITE SIMIAO'S ASSERTIONS THAT GROUP IS AUTONOMOUS AND SEEKING SUPPORT FROM PORTUGUESE GOVERNMENT, JARDIM, ET AL., WE SUSPECT THAT PORTUGUESE ARE COVERTLY INVOLVED IN ITS FORMATION, --- PERHAPS MORE THAN SIMIAO REALIZES. INDEED, POSSIBLE LINKS BACK TO JARDIM KEEP CROPPING UP:

SIMIAO IS HERSELF A FORMER JARDIM PROTEGE, DIAS IS FROM BEIRA AND HAS BEEN ACTIVELY HELPED UP FROM POOR SURROUNDINGS, ALFERES OLIVEIRA COMMANDS A GEP (BLACK PARATROOP) UNIT, JEQUE IS A JORDIM EMPLOYEE. (ON OTHER HAND, POTT WAS DEFENSE LAWYER FOR MACUTI PRIESTS, AGAINST WHOM JARDIM WAS THE PRINCIPAL COMPLAINANT). IF PORTUGUESE SHOULD BE INVOLVED, THEY WILL PRESUMABLY ENCOURAGE GROUP TO KEEP AN INDEPENDENT IMAGE, IN THE HOPE THAT IT CAN SOMEHOW GAIN SOME ACCEPTANCE AS A LEGITIMATE NATIONALIST FORCE. HOWEVER, SINCE GROUP'S MERE SURVIVAL COULD BE TAKEN AS CONVINCING PROOF OF PORTUGUESE SPONSORSHIP, SUCH ACCEPTANCE ABROAD MAY BE HARD TO COME BY.

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